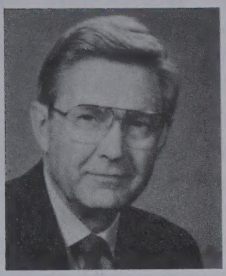
Colorado for Family Values



A Message from Will Perkins

Chairman of the Board, Colorado for Family Values

As you may remember, I predicted in my last letter to you that in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling against Amendment 2, we would witness stepped-up pro-homosexual activity across our state.

Today, it gives me no joy to share with you that those predictions are coming to pass. Several developments across the state signal an ominous new level of aggressiveness on the part of homosexual activists and their supporters. Thankfully, however, I also have some encouragements to report — positive news in which, I am proud to say, Colorado for Family Values played a key role.

First, the bad news: a municipal measure proposed in Denver. Starting in 1997, city employees would be able to sign an affidavit claiming an "exclusive and committed relationship" with someone of the same sex, have that relationship declared a "spousal equivalent" by the city, and then have taxpayer-funded health care benefits extended to that person.

This measure, if adopted, would represent an economic war on taxpayers' pocketbooks. In effect, citizens with "politically incorrect" views have been served notice: your beliefs are at odds with the stated dogma of municipal government. Not only will your views go unheard, not only will they go unheeded, but this municipal government will actually force you to violate your values by making you pay for this financial affirmation of homosexual behavior.

But there's more wrong with this measure than that. This bit of social engineering would carry a high price tag. Because of their destructive sexual practices, those who engage in homosexual conduct suffer from more disease and reduced lifespan than almost any other lifestyle-based group in America. There's a twist to the scientific record you probably haven't heard in the media. Recent studies, including a 13,000 person sample by the homosexual magazine *The Advocate*, show that men in so-called "committed" homosexual relationships actually perform more high-risk behavior, have greater rates of disease, and inflict more violence upon each other than in so-called promiscuous encounters. It goes without saying that this is the opposite of what you find in committed, traditional marriages. So by validating and even encouraging these relationships, the city of Denver would actually increase rates of disease and violence, which taxpayers would then have to pay for. With the average cost of caring for an AIDS patient through death now well beyond $250,000, Denver's measure could prove very costly to its citizens. Beyond that, the proposal is rife with the potential for fraud. Employees can sign up a new homosexual partner after a six month wait — a feature which not only caters to the transitory nature of homosexual relationships, but paves the way for abuse.

Friends, we need not live in Denver to be greatly concerned about this proposal. No governmental body should promote any kind of union other than that of traditional marriage, because no other union creates a benefit to the state. And no citizen ought to be forced to pay for

behavior he or she finds morally repugnant. For that reason, I led a joint press conference conducted by Colorado for Family Values and the Family Research Institute. Together, we presented the facts about this proposal, and urged the City Council to hold public hearings.

Before I move on to the next development, please indulge me in a small, but I believe important, digression. You may notice from now on that our letters will increasingly refer to "homosexual conduct" instead of simply "homosexuality," and mention "those who engage in homosexual conduct" instead of calling them "homosexuals." There is a good reason for this. More and more lately, I've become convinced that we must not allow our words to reinforce the false notion that "heterosexuality" is only one of several acceptable "orientations." The truth is, there is only one authentic expression of sexuality, and there are only of two kinds of people: male and female. The human race is only propagated by the interaction between those two. This is normal and natural. Any other method of sexual gratification is an aberration, and nothing more. To be sure, there are numerous such aberrations out there; at least 17 at last count. Some of their clinical names (words like "klismaphilia," "frattemism," and "apotemnophilia") belie behaviors which would shock you. That's why I will not debase my letters to you by listing them all. But if we allow the lies about so-called "orientation" to take root in our society, every one of those disgusting behaviors will acquire the full weight of societal affirmation.

A second development which concerns me greatly has taken place here in the home base of Colorado for Family Values, Colorado Springs. In the last few months, Palmer Park, a large nature preserve in the middle of the city, has increasingly become a haven for anonymous homosexual encounters. Men "cruise" each other at the park's bathrooms, parking lots and picnic areas. Then, having established their targets' intentions, they pair up and walk into the bushes to engage in homosexual activities. All this in a public place, where passers-by, including families, can and do see them.

If you do not live in Colorado Springs, this may be the first you've heard of this. I recount this development here because unfortunately, this kind of behavior begins to flourish in any community where homosexuality gains a foothold. No matter how small, how quaint or how conservative you may consider your hometown to be, this activity — along with the public-relations ploys I am about to describe — can affect you too.

Recently, a consortium of homosexual activist groups and "gay" bars made a very public show of volunteering to send roving bands of members around the park to "combat" the problem with literature and condoms. Naturally, the local media lapped up the self-serving announcement, all but appointing the homosexual militants as guardians of our community's values.

Yet the truth is that these activists only wanted to whitewash an embarassing situation, partly because it proved a point they've attacked us for making repeatedly: that homosexual behavior poses a direct and serious health risk to local communities. Case in point: a prominent county health official discovered that one out of six men arrested in Palmer Park carried the AIDS virus. That may sound alarmingly high. Yet when I asked him to compare that level with the infection rates of all self-avowed homosexuals in Colorado Springs — including many of the Palmer Park volunteers — he agreed that if they fall anywhere near national averages, they would carry rates of infection as high or higher!

A local homosexual activist told the press that these men — most of whom are not avowed homosexuals, many of whom have wives and children at home — "need help, not punishment." We would agree, of course. But, do you think he meant to "help" them overcome an addiction to homosexual behavior? Of course not! (In fact, he had made sure that option be denied those arrested. Offenders ordered to seek therapy had previously been only offered pro-homosexual counseling through, you guessed it, a local militant group.) The militant homosexuals only mean to "help" these men divorce their spouses, break up their families, embrace homosexuality, and join them in the enlightened "gay community" where they can enjoy such benefits as a higher risk of acquiring AIDS.

If you read our last *CFV Report*, you saw our very first account of this issue, in which we said that, "Police have agreed to stay away . . . " while these patrols took place. We learned, after hearing from several members of the Colorado Springs Police Department, that the report was misleading; the department is continuing to patrol and make arrests. Incredibly, the main obstacle they have met is a dramatic inconsistency between the fines and penalties imposed by different judges — along with their failure to recognize how strongly these crimes impact the community.

It's obvious — when community leaders give such people condoms, they give them permission to perform these acts. With their handouts and their requests to "take it elsewhere," homosexual activists were actually doing nothing to protect the health of these people, but rather trying desperately to remove a public-relations stain on their "community." As further proof that the fox was being let into the henhouse, the volunteers' official instructions actually warned them *not to engage in sex with those they meet!* They went on to warn volunteers against giving strangers tips on where to find sex or drugs, because ". . . you may put them off if you give them a bad tip." I ask, would a reasonable person entering such a delicate situation need to be given such admonitions?

Perhaps the saddest part of this scenario is the involvement of volunteers from P-FLAG, or "Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians." In their understandable desire to offer love, acceptance and support to their children, these folks have been duped into endorsing this deadly behavior. What's worse, they have even begun to aggressively push this indoctrination onto Colorado's public schools. When parents seek to salve their pain by embracing a child's destructive behavior, they can actually become barriers against their child's recovery. Modern psychologists call it "enabling," and it can seriously strengthen the walls of addiction. They are leading children into the sad frame of mind summed up by homosexual billionaire/activist David Geffen: "The future is an illusion. All you have is right now. You're just alive today. And to start planning your life for the future is dumb. There is no future." P-FLAG only serves to perpetuate this sad perspective.

Again, I related this development to you because it represents a tiny foretaste of how low communities can sink when they allow themselves to be brainwashed into affirming homosexuality. In San Francisco and New York, every year's "gay pride" parade signals a suspension of the public lewdness and indecent exposure laws. With city officials sometimes driving past as grand marshals, disgusted police are compelled to turn a blind eye to behavior most of us could not imagine. Families know better than to venture downtown on those days.

This is what the affirmation of homosexual conduct will bring to Colorado. We must do all we can to prevent it. In the Springs, we have worked to bring these facts to the attention of public leaders in city government and police. We stand ready to act as a resource in helping you combat the spread of such behavior into your community.

These are only two among many of the ways in which homosexual activism is impacting our state right now. Others include the continued push for pro-homosexual teaching in Colorado schools (as underscored by the recent pro-gay mailing to state secondary educators) and the state Civil Rights Commission's demand for a statewide policy mandating special rights for homosexual conduct.

Our encouragements come from the federal level. In a single day yesterday, Senate passed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), and narrowly defeated a nationwide "gay rights" law, the so-called "Employment Non-Discrimination Act" (ENDA) championed by Senator Ted Kennedy. As I said before, we are proud to have played important roles in both victories. Colorado for Family Values is a founding member of the Coalition to Protect Traditional Marriage, a national group which, among other things, initiated the idea for DOMA. I have traveled to Washington, D.C. several times in the last few months to work in support of the traditional family. Colorado for Family Values worked hard to provide Senator Campbell's office with information about DOMA and ENDA. As you know, we have been encouraging people to contact their legislators and express their opinions on these bills. Let's be sure and express thanks to both Senators Brown and Campbell for voting pro-family on these issues.

These encouraging victories have been hard to come by, lately. As I said before, militant homosexuals smell blood following the Amendment 2 decision. They believe that Coloradans are so worn out by the whole controversy that we will roll over and surrender our right to believe and hold traditional values. Are they right? Only time will tell. I can only ask that you continue to stand with us and fight for the right to disagree with homosexuality.

Please continue to pray for those engulfed in this addiction, and for all of us as we deal with this issue on the personal and societal levels. And please pray for the future of our beloved state. Unless these trends are reversed, our children may find it a drastically different place to live. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Will Perkins

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P.S. Please do not forget to vote this November 5; nothing is more powerful in protecting our values than an informed ballot. And also, please do not forget the financial support which Colorado for Family Values depends upon for its existence. Thank you for all the ways in which you support this vital work.